



PCERP Seminar Proceedings

Book 13

National Level Seminar

On

ENVIRONMENTAL RE-ENGINEERING:

SERIES-8

Year of Sustainable Tourism

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PREFACE

Tourism means people traveling for fun. It includes activities such as sightseeing and camping. People who travel for fun are called tourists and the places that people go to for tourism are called tourist destinations. In order for us to visit the beautiful places, we need to make sure that they are conserved and preserved by all. This is where the concept of sustainable tourism come. Sustainable tourism means visiting a tourist place and leaving only a positive effect on the environment, society and economy. Tourism involves travel that is transportation to the place and then local transportation, accommodations, entertainment, food and shopping. Hence, it is imperative that tourism become sustainable but how it can be achieved is the question.

Sustainable tourism is where tourists can enjoy their holiday and at the same time respect the culture of people and also respect the environment. Sustainable tourism is also related to 'ecotourism'. It involves visiting undisturbed natural areas which are unexplored and is on a small scale than the commercial tourism. It means responsible travel to natural areas conserving the environment and improving the well-being of the local people and the main purpose is to educate the traveler, to generate funds for the preservation of the environment and to have economic development and empowerment of the locals, to develop a sense of respect for different cultures and people.

When we can minimize the negative aspects of conventional tourism on the environment and enhance the cultural integrity of local people, we can say it is responsible ecotourism. An integral part of ecotourism is the promotion of recycling, energy efficiency, water conservation and also creation of opportunities for the local population to be gainfully employed. Hence, ecotourism is considered as environmental and social responsibility. An ecotourist is different from a tourist in the sense that, he or she is mindful of his environment, in most cases contributing to the sustainability of such surroundings. As a global citizen of this world, it is our responsibility to take actions which will not harm the harm the environment. We need to be responsible tourists who thinks for the environment and who acts for the environment. This seminar will throw light on some of the aspects which will help us become responsible tourists and environmentally responsible citizens.